

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Soviet Merchant Ship STALINABAD	DATE DISTR.	23 November 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
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1. On 20 September 1952, the Soviet merchant ship STALINABAD left Murmansk with a cargo of fertilizer bound for Vladivostok, where it arrived on 27 October 1952. The STALINABAD, a Liberty-type merchant ship, carried fuel for 70 days passage and therefore was not forced to bunker during the voyage. It made the passage through the Northern Sea Route as a single cruising ship without the aid of an icebreaker.
2. The STALINABAD repeatedly met floe ice, and a compact sheet of ice 25 centimeters thick was encountered off Sergey Kirov Islands. The ship radioed for assistance, but the request was refused because the icebreakers available were too far away from the STALINABAD's position and could not leave their convoys.

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